



# *The Beacon Weekly*

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aaworcester.org

Intergroup Office  
Is **CLOSED** until  
further notice.

Please call the office  
number (shown  
above) or email the  
Office Manager  
(shown below) for  
any assistance

## ***The Beacon Weekly Staff***

1/2020 — 12/2020

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Keep the chain  
going— Pass this  
Along

Let us know how  
we are doing—  
beacon@  
aaworcester.org

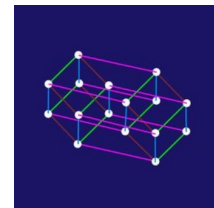
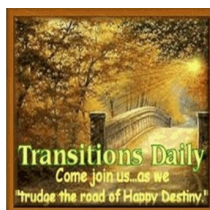
## **A.A.— Related Podcasts—Another Tool to Stay Sober during the COVID-19 Crisis**

Dozens of different topic areas plus daily readings

Well....now that are all digital media and A.A. virtual meeting  
professionals, more digital recovery tools are available at—  
<https://player.fm/podcasts/Alcoholics-Anonymous>

Hosted at Player.FM, this site offers a library of podcasts on recovery, the  
12 Steps, and content produced by individuals and Alcoholics Anonymous  
groups across the country including an Alcoholics Anonymous radio show  
— <https://player.fm/series/alcoholics-anonymous-radio-show-2336394>

Some podcasts of note are:



- **Transitions Daily Recovery Readings Podcast**  
<https://player.fm/series/alcoholics-anonymous-radio-show-2336394>
- **Fourth Dimension** plays only A.A. speaker tapes  
<https://player.fm/series/fourth-dimension>
- **Alcoholics Ominous**— charting a man's journey to sobriety  
<https://player.fm/series/alcoholic-ominous-podcast>
- **One Life** - this week: Pet Grooming 101, the 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous (during quarantine!)  
<https://player.fm/series/one-life-radio-podcast-1926855/pet-grooming-101-the-12-steps-of-alcoholics-anonymous>

Stream or download these audio programs—great for listening anytime.



<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=fm.player>  
<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/podcast-app-by-player-fm/id940568467>

The opinions expressed herein are not to be attributed to A.A. as a whole, nor does the publication of any article imply an endorsement by either A.A., General Services nor Intergroup.



## WAI's VIRTUAL LOCAL MEETING SUPPORT APP

### Fast, easy access to a detailed list of local Online A.A. meetings

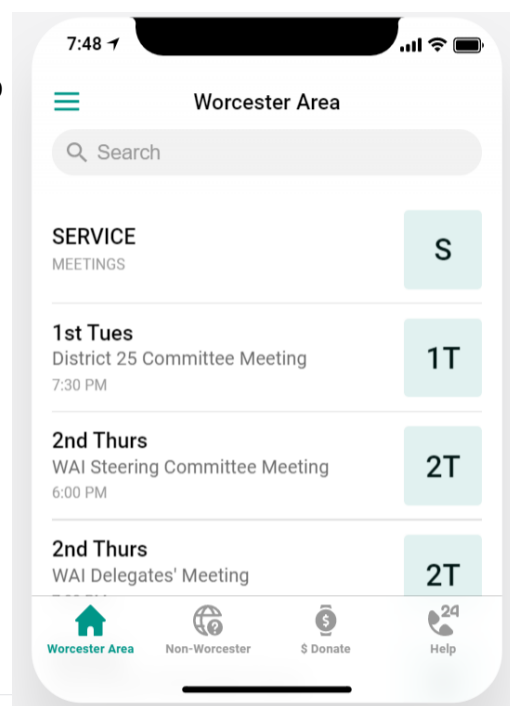
Worcester Area Intergroup's home page includes a Virtual Meeting box with a link to a Web App dedicated to WAI activities. Yes, the link to the spreadsheet listing Virtual A.A. meetings in Massachusetts, and the Worcester area. [ <https://bit.ly/2WlpfBD> ] is still there. As of this writing, the spreadsheet's left tab includes links to **167** meetings in the Central Mass. and surrounding areas.



**QR CODE**  
Scan with camera  
to install app

Got a new meeting to add? See the link in the Virtual Meeting box to go the Virtual Meeting Request Form to submit a new meeting. The spreadsheet includes a second tab (right tab—see illustration) listing **65** online meetings in related areas.

All meetings setup using the Worcester Intergroup account require a password to keep 'bots and hackers out — The password for attending is **Sober2020**



An online meeting list is hosted by the Boston Central Service Committee — [https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/12-gRXU\\_fNZ2ggNx12KdCbzODwR9mNvVW](https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/12-gRXU_fNZ2ggNx12KdCbzODwR9mNvVW) — showing **358** meetings.

A nationwide list from A.A. World Services in New York [ [https://www.aa.org/pages/en\\_US/options-for-meeting-online](https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/options-for-meeting-online) ]

100% View only

These meetings are not associated with Worcester Area Intergroup. Any questions or concerns must be directed to the meeting itself.

Day	Time (ET)	Meeting Name	Topic/Meeting Format	ZOOM Link	Meeting ID	Password	Phone Number	Notes
Saturday	5:00 PM	RDU Fellowship	Boston Saturday Speaker Discussion	<a href="https://zoom.us/j/9963323885">https://zoom.us/j/9963323885</a>	996 332 3885	None	1 929 436 2866	
Saturday	10:00 PM	1 Day at a Time	1 Day at a Time	<a href="https://zoom.us/j/773878425">https://zoom.us/j/773878425</a>	773 878 425	None	1 646 876 9923	
Saturday	10:00 PM	Sober Voices Group	Daily Reflections	<a href="https://sites.google.com/site/aatelephonemeetings/home">https://sites.google.com/site/aatelephonemeetings/home</a>		654443#	1 712 432 0075	<a href="https://sites.google.com/site/aatelephonemeetings/home">https://sites.google.com/site/aatelephonemeetings/home</a>
		AA Topic Discussions		<a href="https://sites.google.com/site/aatelephonemeetings/home">https://sites.google.com/site/aatelephonemeetings/home</a>		654443#	1 712 432 0075	<a href="https://sites.google.com/site/aatelephonemeetings/home">https://sites.google.com/site/aatelephonemeetings/home</a>

Worcester Area meeting list

Non-Worcester Area meeting list

Worcester Area Non-Worcester Area Explore



### What are your thoughts on virtual A.A. meetings?

*"Are virtual meetings the same as attending in person meetings? No. However, they have been a saving grace for this alcoholic. Being able to log onto a meeting and see the faces of those I know and those I don't know has been awesome.*

*This has given me a chance to attend some meetings that I have wanted to attend but just have not been able to get to for one reason or another. I had surgery on March 26th and that night in my hospital room I was on a meeting--how beautiful is that? Wouldn't have happened 5 years ago! I can't wait until we can get back to meetings in person again but until then I will gratefully see you all on line."* Donna H.

Our thanks to Donna for sharing. How about you? What are your thoughts or experiences concerning virtual meetings? Send a two paragraph commentary to: [beacon@aaaworcester.org](mailto:beacon@aaaworcester.org)

### How are you coping without in-person A.A. meetings?

The general press has taken notice of the impact of the loss of in-person meetings for many 12 Step and similar programs. Here are a few links to local coverage of this issue:



"...people with an addiction have to maintain a certain level of order in their lives. To many, that order...comes from getting together with others in 12-step programs. But what happens when those meetings suddenly disappear? What happens when people are no longer able to gather because of social distancing. What becomes of those people in recovery who owe their sobriety to the strength and hope they get from meeting with others. What happens to addicts in the age of isolation?" [ *Martha's Vineyard Times* ]

- <https://www.mvtimes.com/2020/04/20/addiction-in-isolation/>



"Everyone's stress level is through the roof. At the grocery store, calling for an oil delivery – everyone is tense, short, impatient. I have started saying that everyone's defects of character are on full display.

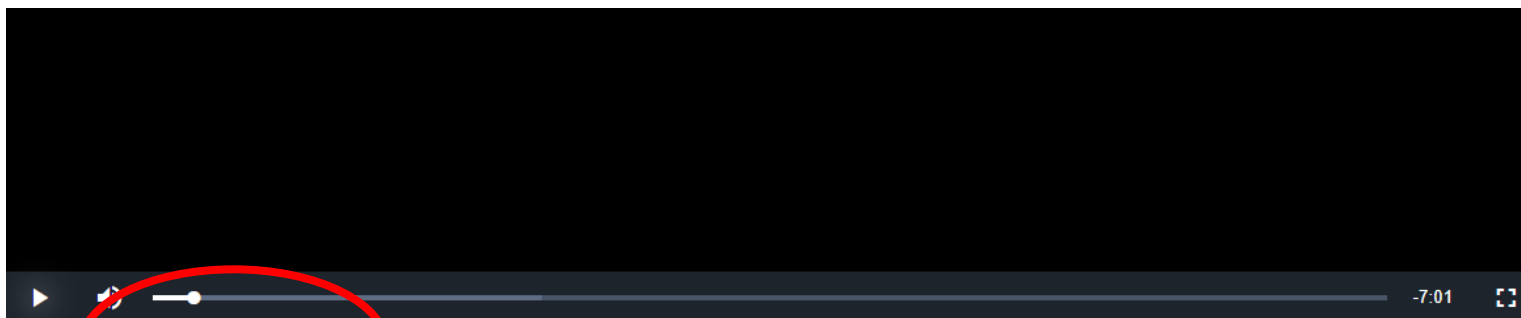
Mine are too, but I have a program that helps me change my behavior and make better choices," Grace F. said." [ *Monadnock Ledger-Transcript* ]

<https://www.ledgertranscript.com/Having-a-substance-use-disorder-during-a-pandemic-33783754>



## Tradition Four

**“Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole.”**



Now Playing: Tradition Four



## Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions

This is the audio version of *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* of Alcoholics Anonymous.

It is still April and you can listen to an audio recording of the Fourth Step and the Fourth Tradition from the 12 & 12 on the web anytime, here:

[https://www.aa.org/pages/en\\_US/twelve-steps-and-twelve-traditions-audio-version#audio-player](https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/twelve-steps-and-twelve-traditions-audio-version#audio-player)

From *The TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS* —Copyright© A.A. World Services



### From: Step Four

**“For the wise have always known that no one can make much of his life until self-searching has become a regular habit, until he is able to admit and accept what he finds, and until he patiently and persistently tries to correct what is wrong.”**

From Bill W. (1953). “Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions”,  
Alcoholics Anonymous World Serv Inc .



## 12 Step Volunteer Application

Name (First name and last initial): \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Towns you will accept calls from: \_\_\_\_\_

Hours that you are available: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to help (please circle *all* that apply):    Males Only    Females Only    Both

Ages I am willing to work with people ages:

Teens

20 to 30

30 to 40

40 to 50

50 to 60

Over 60

I am willing to (please circle):

Talk to a person on the phone

Go to a persons home to talk \*

Give rides to AA Meetings

Give rides to Detox \*

Meet someone at a meeting

Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

*\*It is suggested that a person NOT make a Twelfth Step call alone to help an alcoholic who is still suffering. Also you should NOT drive a wet drunk to a treatment facility (detox) without having another A.A. member with you. If you circled either of these items, please be sure that you have another member of A.A. that is available and willing to go along with you.*

## Anniversary Donation

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Home Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Sobriety Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: **Worcester Area Intergroup**—address on page 1. All Anniversaries submitted will be published the month following submission. Please contact the newsletter Editor at [beacon@aaworcester.org](mailto:beacon@aaworcester.org) if an Anniversary has not been published for two months following submission.

## HALT LINE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

The Intergroup HALT line needs volunteers to cover open time slots. The HALT line is there to assist any alcoholic needing to find a meeting. This is service work that really matters.

**See the flyer on page 13**



## Find a Meeting—Local or Anywhere!

Find a local meeting fast on a Map, a grid, or on a list!

[MeetingMap.aaWorcester.org](http://MeetingMap.aaWorcester.org)



## Alcoholics Anonymous World Services Meeting Guide

The official Meeting Guide is a free of charge meeting finder app for iOS and Android that provides meeting information from A.A. service entities in an easy-to-access format.

Meeting Guide syncs with area, district, intergroup/central offices and international General Service Office websites (some of which are listed on A.A. Near You), relaying meeting information from more than 300 A.A. service entities directly to you. Over 100,000 weekly meetings are currently listed, and the information is refreshed twice daily.

This app gives A.A. service entities full control of their local meeting information while collecting it in one place, making it easy for anyone to find a meeting. Local entities provide their meeting information voluntarily. Meeting Guide users can suggest additions or corrections to meeting listings by using links provided within the app to contact the local service entity responsible for the information.

### New & Enhanced Features

**Search** — Find A.A meetings by name or location, in addition to day and time

**Daily Reflections** — a selection of reflections by and for A.A. members

**Enhanced location functionality**

**Expanded user interface**, with a new menu bar and “Contact” feature.

**“News”** — Learn about events at the General Service Office (G.S.O.) and Grapevine, as well as information about updates within the app.



<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.meetingguide>



[apps.apple.com > app > meeting-guide](https://apps.apple.com/app/meeting-guide)





## The GRAPEVINE AND LA VIÑA ARE HERE TO HELP

Home Group

Spanish issues



APRIL 2020



LA VIÑA

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, many AA meetings across the U.S. have closed. To help members during this time, The AA Grapevine, Inc., publisher of the *International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous*, is providing free access to most of 2020's *Grapevine* and *La Viña* issues. The AA Grapevine, Inc., notes, "Grapevine and *La Viña* were created for such a time as this." See this link to download available issues: [ <https://www.aagrapevine.org/we-are-here-to-help> ]

Please share with your fellows.

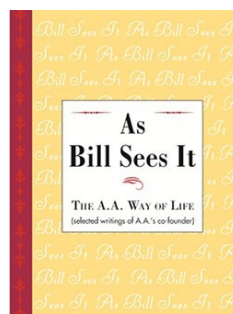
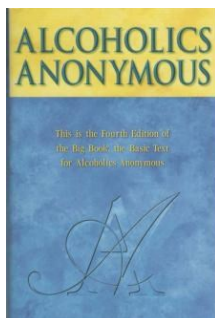
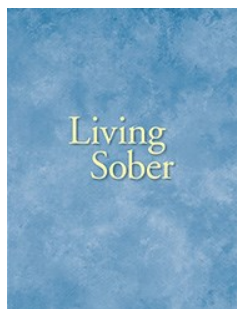
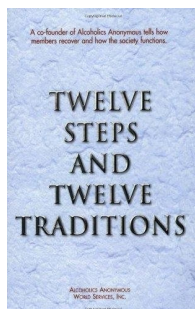
## Worcester Area Intergroup's New Online Bookstore

WAI has launched a new Online Bookstore, enabling local A.A.'s to order coins, books, and cards. The site also includes a printable PDF listing these items, which can be filled out and mailed in if that is more convenient for some buyers.

If you don't know it, sales of books and other items from the WAI Bookstore helps support local A.A. activities (such as the Intergroup Office and Alcathons), so help the local recovery community by buying your A. A.-related items from the WAI bookstore. Gift certificates are now available for the WAI Bookstore and can be used for anything in the bookstore or for special orders.

Find it here: <http://bookstore.aaworcester.org>

Please remember to check off the 'shipping' box—we are not offering in-person orders. Please remember to close out the transaction after Paypal returns you to the bookstore.



## VIRTUAL A.A. MEETINGS WORLDWIDE

The COVID-19 crisis isn't only happening in the U.S. Worldwide, A.A.'s have stepped up to the challenge of service to their fellows by launching virtual meetings almost everywhere A.A. is— we count 1,072 meetings here:

[www.bit.ly/aaonline2020](http://www.bit.ly/aaonline2020)





## Worcester Area Intergroup Information

Until further notice, the Intergroup Steering Committee, District 25 meeting and Intergroup Delegates monthly meeting has been changed to a virtual event—

*Information for these meetings is listed at the top of the virtual meeting list at [aaworcester.org](http://aaworcester.org).*

*\*The Intergroup meetings occur the second THURSDAY of each month.*

**District 25 General Service Committee**—meets first Tuesday of the month 7:30 pm

**District 26 General Service Committee**—Madonna of the Holy Rosary Church Hall, 118 Theresa St., Fitchburg, meets first Thursday of the month 7:00pm AA members welcome—please come join us!

**AREA 30 Eastern Mass. General Service Committee** — Belmont / Watertown United Methodist Church 421 Common St., Belmont—4th Wednesday 8:00pm

### Intergroup Officers & Committee Chairpersons (as of 4/12/20)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>email address</u>	<u><b>Bold = new in 2020</b></u>
Chairperson	<b>Steve O</b>	chair@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Chair	<b>OPEN</b>	altchair@aaworcester.org	
Secretary	<b>Hilary D</b>	secretary@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Secretary	<b>OPEN</b>	altsecretary@aaworcester.org	
Treasurer	<b>Ted K</b>	treasurer@aaworcester.org	
Alt. Treasurer	<b>OPEN</b>	alttreasurer@aaworcester.org	
Trustee	<b>Fred F.</b>	trustee1@aaworcester.org	
Trustee	<b>Kim N.</b>	trustee2@aaworcester.org	
Trustee	<b>Alice B.</b>	trustee3@aaworcester.org	
Trustee	<b>Emily D.</b>	trustee4@aaworcester.org	
Office Manager	<b>Brandy H.</b>	officemanager@aaworcester.org	
Alcathon (WAI)	<b>Brandy H.</b>	alcathon@aaworcester.org	
Beacon Editor	<b>John Mcl</b>	beacon@aaworcester.org	
Treatment Facilities	<b>Raymond M.</b>	treatment@aaworcester.org	
Corrections	<b>Steve O.</b>	corrections@aaworcester.org	
HALTline	<b>Donna H.</b>	haltline@aaworcester.org	
Liaison to District 25	<b>Steve O.</b>		
Liaison to District 26	<b>Jenn C.</b>		
Liaison to Area 30	<b>Jim B.</b>		

### **Treatment Facilities Service Opportunities**

Due to COVID-19, treatment commitments are being revamped. See **page 14** for Treatment Committee updates or contact Raymond M.—[treatment@aaworcester.org](mailto:treatment@aaworcester.org)





### Online Intergroup—Online Meetings Directory

<http://aa-intergroup.org/directory.php>

The Online Intergroup URL listed is a resource and starting point for finding an online meeting format and time that suits you, including by Email, Chat (text), Audio/Video, Discussion Forums, and Telephone



The Directory identifies a wide range of meeting formats—Regular, Men/Women, Men only, Women only, Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender, Deaf/Hard of Hearing, Blind/Visually Impaired, Loners/Internationalists, Atheist/Agnostic, Regional / Ethnic, Profession Specific and Closed or Open

This directory lists over 100 different Groups—each group hosting from 1 to more than a dozen scheduled ‘meetings.’ Each group listed displays how to connect or enter the group, the time(s) of the meetings (in local or Daylight Savings time), a brief description of the format style of the meeting, and URLs/telephone numbers or other relevant access info. Besides English, the list includes meetings offered in 12 other languages, and, meetings hosted in the U.S., Canada, and many other countries.

The Directory also offers information on the Guidelines for Submitting a Meeting for incorporation in the Directory here: [http://aa-intergroup.org/directory\\_form.php](http://aa-intergroup.org/directory_form.php)

The Directory offers a confidential “Get Help Now” page where anyone can enter their contact information and get help 24X7 from volunteer A.A. members, and a Calendar section displaying info on A.A.-related Conferences, Conventions, Roundups, and local, regional, national and international A.A.-related events.

The Online Intergroup aids its member groups in their common purpose of carrying the AA message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

NOTICE ABOUT EXTERNAL LINKS This newsletter provides links to other websites, including websites affiliated with other organizations. Linking to any other website, including but not limited to websites affiliated with other organizations inside the Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) service structure, does not constitute the endorsement, sponsorship, or approval of such other website by Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. (A.A.W.S.), or any products, services, or content displayed, provided, promoted, or offered by such other website. Please be aware that A.A.W.S. is not responsible for the content, practices, policies, or methods of any other website, including, without limitation, any other website's collection, dissemination, use, and protection of personal information, its use of tracking technology, or its level of computer security. Additionally, A.A.W.S. cannot attest to the accuracy, relevancy, timeliness, legality, or completeness of information provided by any other website.



## PLEASE SUPPORT LOCAL VIRTUAL MEETINGS and WAI

One element in online meetings which is different is that the digital world needs a special method to 'Pass the (Virtual) Basket' for the Seventh Tradition. Online hosting—(such as Zoom meetings) - cost money to operate, and other area A.A. activities still need support to provide ongoing services, so a link to a contribution page is included [ [http://aaworcester.org/contribution\\_page.html](http://aaworcester.org/contribution_page.html) ] on [www.aaworcester.org](http://www.aaworcester.org). Please help keep local A.A. resources available for the alcoholic who still suffers. Payment services charge WAI a *per transaction* fee - so when using them, please contribute less frequently but in a larger amount to reduce the fees incurred with each contribution. The contribution page offers PayPal, Square Cash, Cash App and Google Pay payment options, and all three platforms offer an app for download.



<https://www.paypal.com/>



[waintergroup@gmail.com](mailto:waintergroup@gmail.com)



Square

[\\$WAIntergroup](https://www.waintergroup.com)

You may also specify that your contribution be credited to your home group—and you may acknowledge that in your transaction.

If your home group is looking to add digital contribution capabilities, this link offers a good overview of how to add the option of a digital Seventh Tradition contribution capability to an individual group — [ <https://aasfmarin.org/online-contributions-your-digital-7th-tradition-guide-to-best-practices> ] ('Best Practices For a Digital 7th Tradition').

## GRAPEVINE Daily Quote

April 26, 2020

**"Inside of every human being there is a healing power. I had cut my finger and it had gotten well; I'd broken a bone and it had gotten well ... How come? That to me, in its simplest form, is a concept of a power greater than I am."**

California, October 1995, "An Interview with the Author of 'Physician, Heal Thyself!,' *The Best of the Grapevine*, Volume 3

## BUSINESS INSIDER

**'How I've been using free virtual Alcoholics Anonymous meetings to connect and stay sober while in COVID-19 isolation'**

Published under the pseudonym 'Sam Malone' - a *Business Insider* contributor—and an A.A. member - relates his experience with virtual A.A. meetings.

<https://www.businessinsider.com/alcoholics-anonymous-aa-meetings-zoom-covid-19-coronavirus-2020-3>



## OPTIONS FOR CREATING AN ONLINE MEETING

A. A. General Services offers suggestions and shared experiences for creating online meetings here— [ [https://www.aa.org/pages/en\\_US/options-for-meeting-online](https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/options-for-meeting-online) ] This outline includes points to consider and links to other pages:

- Decide if you want to create your own online meeting or attend one that already exists.
- To create your own online meeting, you will choose a platform to use, and provide your group members with any relevant info/instructions for your meeting.

A.A. does not endorse any specific way to meet as a group digitally. Each group must decide what works best for their needs - and several providers offer information on how to use their platforms to set up an online meeting are -

- Google Hangouts/Meet
- Zoom
- Free Conference Call

### Getting additional help

You may be able to request additional help and guidance on this topic by reaching out to your local A.A. office, technology committees, or the online Technology in A.A. forum [ [https://www.aa.org/pages/en\\_US/disclaimer?u=https://tiaa-forum.org/](https://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/disclaimer?u=https://tiaa-forum.org/) ] Page 8 in this newsletter outlines issues of working with the popular Zoom platform.

**NEED HELP?** A.A. Worcester Intergroup offers in-depth user training called **Zoom Trooper Boot Camp**—training assistance for using Zoom—please contact Brandy, WAI Office Manager, for info: [officemanager@aaworcester.org](mailto:officemanager@aaworcester.org) (508) 752-9000

## In online meetings—don't forget Tradition Twelve

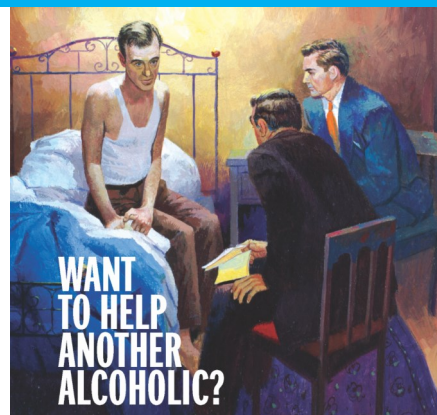
Especially in the digital universe—anonymity matters: See this link to a booklet including guidance and suggestions:

[https://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/p-47\\_understandinganonymity.pdf](https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/p-47_understandinganonymity.pdf)

## Want To Help Another Alcoholic?

Join Us in our 2020  
*Carry The Message  
Project*

To learn more, visit our website at  
[aagrapevine.org/carry-the-message](http://aagrapevine.org/carry-the-message)  
or visit our YouTube channel at  
[youtube.com/aagrapevine](https://youtube.com/aagrapevine).





### **A Guide to using Zoom as a Virtual Meeting Platform**

Highlights from the New York Intergroup's suggestions for developing and managing virtual meetings using Zoom

<https://www.nyintergroup.org/remote-meetings/join-the-nyig-zoom-meeting-room/what-is-the-aa-zoom-room/nyig-zoom-room-support/>

The New York City area has been hard hit by the COVID-19 virus, and the NY Intergroup has a helpful guide for using Zoom as a virtual meeting platform, addressing topics such as:

- The Account Setup Guide, and, How to use Zoom
- A Guide for Meeting Chairs
- Managing anonymity in virtual meetings
- Support— Zoom offers support videos and other resources. AA members are encouraged to explore <https://support.zoom.us>
- Member and Group resources

#### **Virtual Meetings face their own challenges**

According to the *New York Times*, some A.A. groups hosting virtual meetings on Zoom have had problems with internet trolls (they are under quarantine, too) who are jumping into public Zoom calls and using the platform's screen-sharing feature to project graphic (and sometimes pornographic) content to unwitting conference participants, forcing hosts to shut down their events. This practice is apparently called "Zoom Bombing."

Thankfully, the Inter-Group Association of A.A. New York offers a helpful 4 page guide, '**NYIG Toolkit for Handling Unwanted Meeting Disruptions**' [ download: [https://www.nyintergroup.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/NYIG\\_Zoom-Protection-Guide\\_033020.pdf](https://www.nyintergroup.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/NYIG_Zoom-Protection-Guide_033020.pdf) ] addressing concerns such as:

- What should you do if your meeting is disrupted?
- Turn off a Participant's Video and Remove Participant, and, Locking a Meeting
- Preventing "Zoom Group Chat" Abuse, and, Preventing "Share Screen" Abuse

Zoom also offers a guide to preventing security problems here - How to Keep Uninvited Guests Out of Your Zoom Event — [ <https://blog.zoom.us/wordpress/2020/03/20/keep-uninvited-guests-out-of-your-zoom-event/> ]

### **WAI's ZOOM WARRIOR COMMITTEE TO THE RESCUE!!**

Worcester Intergroup's new committee—The ZOOM Warriors— consists of 12 Zoom Warriors and 2 Honorary Warriors, along with over 70 Zoom Troopers, who's mission is to help keep local A.A. meetings going when our physical locations are closed by giving technical support to groups adding online sessions. Need help? The Warriors have a useful guide to Zoom, and, offer training assistance for using Zoom—contact Brandy, WAI Office Manager,

for info: [officemanager@aaworcester.org](mailto:officemanager@aaworcester.org) (508) 752-9000





## HALT Line Volunteers needed

### What the HALT line is:

One alcoholic talking to another alcoholic --- Isn't that what A.A. is all about?

One might:

- \*Give out meeting time and location information.
- \*Talk and/or listen to a sober alcoholic in danger of picking up a drink.
- \*Talk and/or listen to a sober alcoholic who is visiting the area.
- \*Talk to a "drunk". You may be the link in the chain that could save their life.
- \*Refer a caller to the Intergroup Office and inform them of the office hours.

**This is a very easy way to do service from the convenience of your own home.**

### What you need to be a volunteer:

\*1 year of sobriety is suggested because the first year needs focus on recovery before such service.

\*Meeting lists (we suggest District 26 and Worcester Area). These are available free of charge from Worcester Area Intergroup and are available on the Website [www.aaworcester.org](http://www.aaworcester.org) or use the App MeetingGuide on your cell phone.



\*3 or more hours of time during the week that you will be available to answer calls. This is done from your own home or cell phone. You do not have to answer as A.A. you can simply answer and when asked say you are "Answering for Worcester Area Intergroup, how can I help you?"



Please call Donna H., the HALT Line chair, at 508-735-8559 or email her at [donnaaham@charter.net](mailto:donnaaham@charter.net) or send an email to [haltline@aaworcester.org](mailto:haltline@aaworcester.org)





## WORCESTER AREA INTERGROUP Joint Treatment Committee Report

April 2020 | Ray      Matt H      Jeff W

### **Next Virtual Joint Treatment Meeting is Friday January 17th at 7:00pm.**

We continue to be really happy with the conference call option for the Area Joint Treatment Committee. We are hopeful that the ability to dial in remotely will encourage greater attendance, even when Covid is over. I will be on the next call this next Friday. Anybody that would be interested in joining me on the call, especially individuals that were interested in being advisors on the treatment committee, the link is: <https://zoom.us/j/929134960/> or dial in at 929-205-6099 | 929134960# / Meeting ID: 929 134 960

### **Virtual AA Commitments - Daily at 7:30pm - Headed by Jeff Warren**

Jeff is heading the virtual commitments. You may reach him by phone at 774-290-3258 to book your group. The daily re-occurring Link for now: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/699702597>. We will need to look at a couple 30 minute commitments back to back since all facilities cannot have more than 10 people in a room at a time.

### **Who is taking patients?**

As of last week: CHL, Washburn House, Spectrum. Independence Hall is planning to start taking patients again perhaps next week. This changes day by day. As for CSS beds, many of the facilities are now keeping that within their own network instead of taking from a different detox. Spectrum is giving extensions to place people.

### **Bridging the Gap**

We are in process of compiling this list for "Temporary Contacts" to help virtually for now and then in person when live meetings start again. Anybody looking for sponsees would be a good fit for Bridging the Gap. Email [treatment@AAWorcester.org](mailto:treatment@AAWorcester.org) or call Ray 781-600-3510.

This is designed to help the alcoholic in an alcoholism treatment program make that transition. As you know, one of the more "slippery" places in the journey to sobriety is between the door of the facility and the nearest A.A. group or meeting. Some of us can tell you that, even though we heard of A.A. in treatment, we were too fearful to go."

Respectfully,

Raymond M.      - Worcester Area Intergroup - Treatment Chair -  
[Treatment@AAWorcester.Org](mailto:Treatment@AAWorcester.Org)